United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/166

Meeting of States Parties

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Special Meeting
New York, 30 January 2008

Election of a member of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

List of candidates nominated by States parties

Note by the Registrar of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

1. Owing to the resignation of Judge Guangjian Xu on 15 August 2007, a vacancy has occurred in the Tribunal.

2. In accordance with the provisions of articles 4 and 6 of the Statute of the Tribunal, the Registrar, in a note verbale dated 23 August 2007, invited the Governments of the States parties to communicate to him between 15 September 2007 and 14 November 2007 the names of the candidates they might wish to nominate for membership of the Tribunal.

3. By a note verbale dated 25 September 2007, the Registrar informed the States parties that, pursuant to article 6 of the Statute of the Tribunal, the President of the Tribunal, after consultation with the President of the Meeting of States Parties, proposed to have the election held on 30 January 2008. In the same note, the Registrar invited the States parties to communicate their comments in that regard, if any, by 12 October 2007. Two States parties communicated comments concerning the date of the election.

4. By a note verbale dated 5 November 2007, the Registrar informed the States parties that the President of the Tribunal, after consultation with the President of the Meeting of States Parties, had considered it advisable to further seek the views of the States parties in order to reach a decision as to the date of the election to fill the current vacancy. In the same note, the Registrar invited States parties to communicate further comments in that regard, if any, by 21 November 2007. Comments concerning the date of election were communicated by seven States parties, six of which stated that they had no objection to holding the election on 30 January 2008. Of those six States parties, four stated that acceptance of the proposal was on the understanding that no other items would be placed on the agenda for discussion during the Special Meeting. One State party was of the

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opinion that it would be preferable to hold the election during the next Meeting of States Parties in June 2008.

5. By a note verbale dated 22 November 2007, the Registrar informed the States parties that the President of the Tribunal, in accordance with article 6, paragraph 1, of the Statute, had decided that the election to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Xu for the remainder of the term for which he had been elected (ending on 30 September 2011) would take place on 30 January 2008.

6. Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Statute provides that the Registrar shall prepare a list in alphabetical order of all the persons nominated by the States parties, with an indication of the States parties which have nominated them. The list is contained in the annex to the present note.

7. The curriculum vitae of the candidate will be circulated in document SPLOS/167.

Annex

List of candidates for the election of a member of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

Name and nationality	*Nominated by*
Gao, Zhiguo (China)	China